

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1.(currently amended)A pronunciation judgment system comprising:

a database for storing a plurality of reference pronunciation data of a sentence of the same language and corresponding to a plurality of pronunciation fluency levels for the sentence;

a user operative member for selecting one of ~~same~~ said plurality of pronunciation fluency levels;

reference voice playback means for outputting a reference voice based on said reference pronunciation data of the sentence and corresponding to the selected pronunciation fluency level;

similarity determination means for comparing a user pronunciation data input in correspondence to said reference voice and said reference pronunciation data corresponding to the selected pronunciation fluency level; and

means for informing a user of a result of a determination made by said similarity determination means.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) The pronunciation judgment system according to claim 1, wherein said reference voice playback means outputs the reference voice based on said reference pronunciation data of the sentence and corresponding to the selected pronunciation fluency level until said similarity determination means detects agreement of both data.

4. (previously presented) The pronunciation judgment system according to claim 1, wherein said database stores reference pronunciation data of a plurality of sentences of the same language and corresponding to a plurality of pronunciation fluency levels for the sentences, and said reference voice playback means includes a second user operative member for selecting one of the sentences and outputs the reference voice based on said reference pronunciation data of the selected sentence and

corresponding to the selected pronunciation fluency level, until said similarity determination means detects agreement of both data.

5. (previously presented) The pronunciation judgment system according to claim 1, further comprising means for displaying the sentence corresponding to the reference pronunciation data.

6. (previously presented) The pronunciation judgment system according to claim 5, wherein said informing means comprises means for displaying an agreement indicator indicating that the similarity determination means detects the agreement of both data.

7. (previously presented) A computer readable recording medium for storing a program for causing a computer to execute the steps of:

reading out reference voice data from a database consisting of a plurality of reference pronunciation data of a sentence of the same language and corresponding to a plurality of pronunciation fluency levels for the sentence;

outputting a user operative member for selecting one of said plurality of pronunciation fluency levels;

playing back a reference voice based on said read out reference voice pronunciation data of the sentence and corresponding to the selected pronunciation fluency level;

determining a similarity by comparing user pronunciation data input in correspondence to said reference voice and said reference voice data corresponding to the selected pronunciation fluency level; and

informing a user of a result of determination made by said similarity determination means.

8. (canceled)

9. (previously presented) The recording medium according to claim 7, wherein said reference voice playback step outputs a user selected level reference voice based on said reference pronunciation data of the sentence and corresponding to the selected pronunciation fluency level, until said similarity determination step detects agreement of both data.

10. (previous presented) The recording medium according to claim 7,

wherein said database stores reference pronunciation data of a plurality of sentences of the same language and corresponding to a plurality of pronunciation fluency levels for the sentences, and said reference voice playback step includes a second user operative member for selecting one of the sentences, and said reference voice playback step outputs a user selected reference voice of a user selected sentence and pronunciation fluency level of the selected sentence based on said reference pronunciation data and corresponding to the selected pronunciation fluency levels until said similarity determination step detects agreement of both data.

11. (previously presented) The recording medium according to claim 7, wherein said program causes a computer to execute also a step for displaying the sentence corresponding to the reference pronunciation data.

12. (previously presented) The recording medium according to claim 7, wherein said informing step comprises a step involving the display of an agreement indicator indicating that the similarity determination means detects the agreement of both data.

13. (previously presented) The pronunciation judgment system according to